



BRIDPORT  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1972



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1972

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Mountfield,  
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Medical Officer of Health  
Dorchester 3131 Ext. 470

PUBLIC HEALTH AND PLANS COMMITTEE 1972

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Mr. R.B. Howarth, M.B.E. (Vice-Chairman) (dec'd)

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Colonel R.E.A. Foulger, M.C., T.D.  
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Miss I.M.C. Caddy  
Mr. W. McLellan  
Mr. A.A.J. Palmer (Chairman of the Council)  
Lieutenant-Colonel H.J.G. Weld, M.C. J.P.  
Mr. F.H. White  
Mr. J.G. Willy

STAFF - PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health.

E.E. Hodgson, M.B.Ch.B., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

J.C. Angus, M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

J.R. Newman, C.Eng., A.M.I.Mun.E., F.R.S.H.,

Additional Public Health Inspector

R. Capindale M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

(Commenced 4th April 1972 - Resigned 13th November 1972)

Public Health Inspector (Meat Inspection).

E.E. Roughton, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Pupil Public Health Inspector;

D. Hayball (Joint Appointment)

Rodent Operative

K.S. Griffin

Clerk/Typists

Mrs. C.A. Lee

Mrs. S.J. Denner (1972)

Mrs. C.R. Hamilton (1973)

BRIDPORT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

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FOR THE YEAR 1972

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Telephone: Dorchester 3131  
Extension 470

The Colliton Clinic,  
Glyde Path Road,  
Dorchester,  
Dorset.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Bridport Rural District Council

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my statutory duty to present to you the Annual Report on the health of your district for the year 1972. However, since the Bridport Rural District Council, and with it the appointment of Medical Officer of Health to the Council, will cease to function on March 31st 1973, this will be the final report and will include some of the work carried out by me during 1973, although the statistics of the Registrar General refer only to 1972.

Public Health has long been a concern of communities for there is much evidence that civilisations even 3,000 B.C. knew the advantages to health of good sanitation. Hippocrates, the father of Medicine, lectured his pupils in 460 B.C. on Air, Water and Places - still, in 1973, basic principles of public health.

Sanitary Science - one might say - Preventive Medicine, began to creep into England from Europe in the reign of King Alfred The Great who established Monasteries wherein the monks were teachers and physicians. John Adherne in the 14th century wrote to physicians advising them to cleanse their nails of filth before operating on their patients - and from Italy in 1550 a document arrived in England in which food handlers were required to refrain from coughing and sneezing whilst preparing food, a not unnecessary warning in 1973. Fifteenth century men began to look elsewhere than to the stars for the cause of their ills, and history shows that in the 16th century there was an awareness of social conditions.

Infectious disease - Sweating Fevers - carried off enormous numbers of people. It was a woman, Lady Mary Montague, who first began the battle to conquer Smallpox with arm to arm vaccination, although credit for the discovery of vaccine went to Edward Jenner in 1796.

In the middle of the 19th Century the great social reformers, Shaftesbury and Chadwick, woke England's conscience to the insanitary conditions among the growing populace removed from their agricultural pursuits to industry, and in 1840 the forerunner of your Public Health Committee was formed - namely the Health of Towns Committee. This was followed in 1847 by the appointment of the first Medical Officer of Health in the country - to Liverpool, and the first Public Health Act appeared in 1848.

The History of Public Health Administration is complicated and piecemeal. From the first public health act, and in many other acts thereafter, such as those dealing with Factories and Children, there have been responsibilities for the Medical Officer of Health. Through the years he has dealt with sewerage, housing, water supplies, air pollution, food hygiene, infectious disease, port health, as well as duties in the personal health services, some of these services having developed through the Education Acts, i.e. infant and maternal welfare, clinics and school health.

Now once again the social needs of the country are changing, people live longer thanks to medical knowledge and increasing community care. The old epidemics are almost conquered and technical knowledge is far advanced. New disciplines are ready to take over much of the work of the Medical Officers of Health, and the Town Hall Doctor, as he has come to be affectionately known in many places, is no longer to work directly with local authority but is to join his colleagues from the hospitals and family practitioner services as a member of a team of physicians working with the Area Health Authority. He is to be renamed the Community Physician. Public Health as we have known for the doctor will disappear on March 31st to be replaced by Community Medicine. The new District Community Physician, in addition to other duties, will be the proper officer for the new District Authority and as such will continue to be in charge of the epidemiology of communicable disease within the district.

The Registrar General's estimated mid year population for 1972 for Bridport Rural District shows an increase of 250 bringing the population to a new total of 8,890. It is interesting at this point to look at Dorset County Council's estimated additional summer population for West Dorset, as this shows Bridport Rural District to have an additional overnight population of 14,900. These figures must be considered when planning future health and social requirements.

Studying the causes of death the main killers continue to be Ischaemic Heart Disease, Cerebrovascular Disease and Pneumonia. Death by ages (not recorded) shows that 85% of those who died were in the sixty-five and over age group.

During the summer of 1972 the Public Health Department continued to investigate the cases of dysenteric-like illness occurring in bathers in the River Bride where the Bride forms a lagoon before it enters the sea through Chesil Beach. Before the holiday period commenced a great deal of work was done sampling sewage effluent and river water along the last two miles of the river's journey to the sea. A survey was also carried out among the holidaymakers which showed that a large percentage of holidaymakers bathing in the river were affected by this illness.

Among the organisms demonstrated in the samples tested at the County Laboratory were the common commensals of the intestinal tract as well as *Salmonella* Bredeney, Virchow, Panama, Kiambu, Montevideo, Brandenburg, Ndola, Agama and Nagoya. Other cytopathogenic agents were isolated by special examination but this type of examination could not be carried out for any length of time because of a shortage of culture material. Considering the *Salmonellas* isolated from the river water, some of these were thought to be from imported cattle feed obtained from higher reaches of the river.

Notices prohibiting bathing were erected at the lagoon, unfortunately these notices were often ignored and adults and small children continued to bathe in the lagoon. I am glad to be able to report that in July 1973, before the commencement of the peak holiday period, all effluent entering the River Bride near the lagoon was chlorinated and the result of this was that only one case, the origin of which was not certain, was reported to the department.

In the Spring of 1973 a case of Tuberculosis was discovered among a school population. This led to over 800 people being investigated. The investigations were carried out with co-operation from County Council Health Staff, the staff of the school concerned and the mobile mass x-ray unit from Poole, to whom I extend my thanks. I would also like to thank the Medical Officer of Health's secretary, Mrs. Carol Hamilton, who spent many extra hours of work helping with this investigation.

Although there have been other minor occurrences of infection throughout 1972/73 there have been no serious outbreaks of disease. Some family practitioners send material from throat infections to the County Laboratory for examination. A fair number of these samples from cases occurring in the Rural District were found to be positive for Haemolytic *Streptococci*. This is a bacteria found in man and animals and can invade the tissues of susceptible humans causing disease in many forms. The bacteria are very susceptible to treatment with antibiotics but occasionally a fatal case can occur.

Untreated cream and the packaging of cream remains a public health hazard. Cream is included in the definition of milk (Milk and Dairies General Regulations 1959) and therefore must be produced under hygienic conditions, but as there is no legislation dealing with licensing and statutory testing of cream, there are no penalties for failure. A working party on the 'Hygiene and Marketing of Fresh Cream' made their report in July 1970 to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service. They found untreated cream could contain many pathogenic bacteria, especially if prepared under unsuitable conditions or filled by hand into the cartons. These bacteria multiply by age and/or climatic conditions.

The Brucellosis Accredited Scheme moves forward slowly, much untreated milk is still sold and samples sometimes fail the ring test for Brucellosis. When this happens the farmers who hold Producers Licences co-operate with the Authorities dealing with Milk and Dairy Regulations and with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The whole business of unpasteurised milk is unsatisfactory from a public health point of view, however, untreated milk tastes sweeter to many people. Fortunately no cases of Brucellosis have been reported in humans this year, although since this disease can be insidious there may well be missed cases.

You will read in the report of two cases of Anthrax occurring in animals in 1972 and one which has recently occurred in 1973. The Public Health Department is notified of these cases by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who also deal with the disposal of the animal carcass. The Public Health Department visits the farms and advice is given to human contacts of the living and dead animal and decisions are taken regarding the distribution of milk from the farms.

Infections of other bacteria pathogenic to man occurring in animals are notified by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. These cases are notified to the Department for any action which is considered necessary. Generally they are Salmonellas which mainly cause gastro enteritis in man. They are poor relatives of the Salmonella Typhi and Para-Typhi and are transmitted in food.

In January 1973 articles appeared in the national press reporting investigations into imported cooking casseroles after disclosures that they contained higher levels of toxic metals than allowed by the British Standards Institute for Ceramic Ware. A survey was carried out in the Bridport Rural District but no suspected casseroles were discovered for sale. A further survey was carried out by Dorset County Council Weights and Measures Department into local potters.

Reorganisation of the National Health Service is drawing to its final stages and staffing the department has become a problem so that only routine investigations can now be carried out. However providing no major disasters occur Bridport Rural District should be in a fairly healthy condition when it becomes a member of the West Dorset District Council.

I would like to thank the members of the Public Health Committee for their co-operation during the time I have been your Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

E. EILEEN HODGSON

Medical Officer of Health

### LOCAL STATISTICS

|                                       | <u>1972</u> | <u>1971</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Area (in acres)                       | 32,048      | 32,048      |
| Number of habitable houses            | 3,827       | 3,720       |
| Population (mid year estimate 1972)   | 8,890       | 8,640       |
| Rateable Value (as at 1st April 1972) | £294,575    | £284,144    |
| Sum represented by 1p Rate            | £2,850      | £2,760      |

### VITAL STATISTICS

| Live Births (Registered)        |              | <u>MALE</u> | <u>FEMALE</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Live Births                     | Total        | 51          | 50            | 101          |
|                                 | Legitimate   | 44          | 43            | 87           |
|                                 | Illegitimate | 7           | 7             | 14           |
| Stillbirths                     | Total        | -           | 1             | 111          |
|                                 | Legitimate   | -           | 1             | 1            |
|                                 | Illegitimate | -           | -             | -            |
| Deaths (Registered)             |              |             |               |              |
| Total Deaths all ages           |              | 80          | 75            | 155          |
| Deaths of infants under 1 year  |              |             |               |              |
|                                 | Total        | 4           | 4             | 8            |
|                                 | Legitimate   | 4           | 4             | 8            |
|                                 | Illegitimate | -           | -             | -            |
| Deaths of infants under 4 weeks |              |             |               |              |
|                                 | Total        | 2           | 3             | 5            |
|                                 | Legitimate   | 2           | 3             | 5            |
|                                 | Illegitimate | -           | -             | -            |
| Deaths of infants under 1 week  |              |             |               |              |
|                                 | Total        | 2           | 3             | 5            |
|                                 | Legitimate   | 2           | 3             | 5            |
|                                 | Illegitimate | -           | -             | -            |

In calculating birth and death rates area comparability factors are used. This is the figure given by the Registrar General to correct irregularities in the age and sex structure of the population and to take into account any high mortality due to the presence of residential institutions or other establishments in the local area.

The local crude rate is multiplied by the area comparability factor to give a rate comparable with other parts of the country.

The following figures show birth and death rates in comparison with the figure for England and Wales, that is the national figure.

|                                                                                               | 1972                           |                                      | 1971                           |                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                                                                                               | <u>Bridport</u><br><u>R.D.</u> | <u>England</u><br><u>&amp; Wales</u> | <u>Bridport</u><br><u>R.D.</u> | <u>England</u><br><u>&amp; Wales</u> |
| <b>Live Birth Rates</b>                                                                       |                                |                                      |                                |                                      |
| Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude Rate)                                             | 11.4                           | 14.8                                 | 11.1                           | 16.0                                 |
| Area Comparability Factor                                                                     | 1.39                           | 1.00                                 | 1.36                           | 1.00                                 |
| Local Adjusted Rate                                                                           | 15.8                           | 14.8                                 | 15.1                           | 16.0                                 |
| Illegitimate live births as a percentage of the live births                                   | 14                             | 9                                    | 8                              | 8                                    |
| Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths                                          | 10                             | 12                                   | 10                             | 12                                   |
| <b>Death Rate all ages</b>                                                                    |                                |                                      |                                |                                      |
| Deaths per 1,000 population (Crude Rate)                                                      | 17.4                           | 12.1                                 | 16.7                           | 11.6                                 |
| Area Comparability Factor                                                                     | .61                            | 1.00                                 | .73                            | 1.00                                 |
| Local Adjusted Rate                                                                           | 10.6                           | 12.1                                 | 12.2                           | 11.6                                 |
| <b>Infant Mortality Rate</b>                                                                  |                                |                                      |                                |                                      |
| Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births                                                     | 79                             | 17                                   | 21                             | 18                                   |
| Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births                    | 92                             | 17                                   | 23                             | 17                                   |
| Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births                | -                              | 21                                   | -                              | 24                                   |
| Neonatal - deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births                                         | 50                             | 12                                   | 21                             | 12                                   |
| Early Neonatal - deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births                              | 50                             | 10                                   | 21                             | 10                                   |
| Perinatal (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined) per 1,000 total live and stillbirths | 59                             | 22                                   | 31                             | 22                                   |

### BIRTHS AND INFANTILE DEATHS

|                                                   | Actual<br>Figures | Rate | National<br>Average |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------|---------------------|
| Live Births                                       | 101               | 11.4 | 14.8                |
| Stillbirths                                       | 1                 | 10   | 12                  |
| Deaths under 1 year                               | 8                 | 79   | 17                  |
| Deaths under 4 weeks                              | 5                 | 50   | 12                  |
| Deaths under 1 week                               | 5                 | 50   | 10                  |
| Stillbirths and deaths under<br>1 week - combined | 6                 | 59   | 22                  |

### COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

Although there were more deaths than births this year the population of the Rural District has increased by 250. The Crude Live Birth Rate was lower than the national average while the Crude Death Rate was much higher. When adjusted by the Area Comparability Factor we see that the Birth Rate is higher than the national average and the Death Rate is much lower.

In 1971 the Illegitimate Live Births as a percentage of the Live Births was 8, this has risen this year to 14%. The Infant Mortality Rate, that is deaths under one year per thousand live births was 79 compared to a national average of 17 and it is noted that although the number of illegitimate infants born in the Rural District was high, none of these illegitimate infants died.

CAUSES OF DEATH

| <u>Code</u> |                                        | 1972        |               | 1971        |               |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
|             |                                        | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> |
| B6(2)       | Other tuberculosis                     | -           | -             | 1           | -             |
| B19(1)      | Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. | 1           | 1             | -           | -             |
| B19(2)      | Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus         | 1           | -             | -           | 1             |
| B19(3)      | Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach            | -           | -             | 2           | 1             |
| B19(4)      | Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine          | 3           | 3             | 3           | -             |
| B19(5)      | Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx             | 1           | -             | -           | -             |
| B19(6)      | Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus     | 6           | 1             | 4           | 4             |
| B19(7)      | Malignant Neoplasm, Breast             | -           | -             | -           | 2             |
| B19(8)      | Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus             | -           | 2             | -           | -             |
| B19(9)      | Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate           | -           | -             | 4           | -             |
| B19(10)     | Leukaemia                              | 1           | 1             | -           | 1             |
| B19(11)     | Other Malignant Neoplasms              | 2           | 8             | 2           | 7             |
| B20         | Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms       | 2           | -             | -           | -             |
| B46(3)      | Mental Disorders                       | -           | 1             | -           | -             |
| B46(4)      | Multiple Sclerosis                     | -           | -             | -           | 1             |
| B46(5)      | Other Diseases of Nervous System       | -           | 1             | -           | -             |
| B26         | Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease        | -           | -             | 1           | -             |
| B27         | Hypertensive Disease                   | 1           | -             | -           | 2             |
| B28         | Ischaemic Heart Disease                | 25          | 16            | 18          | 13            |
| B29         | Other Forms of Heart Disease           | 6           | 2             | 2           | 2             |
| B30         | Cerebrovascular Disease                | 10          | 16            | 9           | 19            |
| B46(6)      | Other Diseases of Circulatory System   | 4           | 3             | 2           | 2             |
| B32         | Pneumonia                              | 6           | 6             | 9           | 9             |
| B33(1)      | Bronchitis and Emphysema               | 3           | -             | 4           | 1             |

| <u>Code</u>      |                                       | 1972        |               | 1971        |               |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
|                  |                                       | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> |
| B33(2)           | Asthma                                | -           | -             | -           | 1             |
| B46(7)           | Other Diseases of Respiratory System  | -           | 1             | -           | 2             |
| B34              | Peptic Ulcer                          | 1           | 1             | 1           | 1             |
| B36              | Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia     | 1           | 1             | 1           | -             |
| B37              | Cirrhosis of Liver                    | -           | -             | -           | 1             |
| B39              | Hyperplasia of Prostate               | 1           | -             | -           | -             |
| B46(9)           | Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System | -           | 1             | -           | -             |
| B46(11)          | Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System   | -           | 1             | 1           | 1             |
| B42              | Congenital Anomalies                  | -           | 2             | -           | 1             |
| B44              | Other causes of Perinatal Mortality   | 2           | 3             | -           | 2             |
| B45              | Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions   | -           | 3             | -           | 1             |
| BE47             | Motor Vehicle Accidents               | 1           | -             | -           | 1             |
| BE48             | All Other Accidents                   | 1           | 1             | 3           | 1             |
| BE49             | Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries   | 1           | -             | -           | 1             |
| BE50             | All Other External Causes             | -           | -             | 1           | -             |
| TOTAL ALL CAUSES |                                       | 80          | 75            | 68          | 76            |

# CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES AGAINST WHICH ROUTINE IMMUNISATION IS OFFERED

### Numbers occurring in the Rural District

| <u>Disease</u> | <u>Total</u><br><u>1972/73</u> | <u>Total</u><br><u>1971</u> |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Tetanus        | -                              | -                           |
| Measles        | 9                              | 65                          |
| Whooping Cough | -                              | 4                           |
| Poliomyelitis  | -                              | -                           |
| Tuberculosis   | 2                              | 1                           |
| Diphtheria     | -                              | -                           |

The following table shows the number of immunisations carried out in Schools and Clinics during 1972 in the Rural District. I am indebted to the Department of the County Medical Officer of Health for these figures.

| Poliomyelitis |     | Diphtheria |    | Tetanus |     | Whooping<br>Cough |    | Measles | Rubella |
|---------------|-----|------------|----|---------|-----|-------------------|----|---------|---------|
| P             | R   | P          | R  | P       | R   | P                 | R  | P       | P       |
| 69            | 155 | 69         | 88 | 71      | 155 | 67                | 24 | 48      | 1       |

P = Primary Course

R = Reinforcing Dose

### Rubella (German Measles)

Rubella although not notifiable under the Infectious Disease Regulations 1968 is known to cause handicap in babies born to mothers who have contacted Rubella in the first three months of pregnancy. Therefore immunisation is offered to all girls in their 13 - 14th year.

The numbers given in the above table are those immunisations carried out by County Medical staff and are not therefore a true picture of the number given in the district.

## Tuberculosis

The following table shows the position for the year 1972:-

|                                            |       |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|
| Number of cases on register at 1st January | 7     |
| New cases notified during the year         | 1     |
| Transfers into area during the year        | -     |
|                                            | <hr/> |
|                                            | 8     |
| Number recovered during the year           | -     |
| Number moved away in year                  | -     |
| Died                                       | -     |
|                                            | <hr/> |
| Number remaining on 31st December 1972     | 7     |

## B.C.G. Immunisation Against Tuberculosis (Bacille Calmette-Guerin)

The following figures show the number of routine immunisations given in the Bridport area during 1972:

|                                                         |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of children heard tested<br>prior to vaccination | 127 |
| Number vaccinated                                       | 109 |

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE AGAINST WHICH NO ROUTINE  
IMMUNISATION IS OFFERED

Numbers occurring in the Rural District

|                               | <u>Total</u><br><u>1972/73</u> | <u>Total</u><br><u>1971</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dysentery                     | 2                              | -                           |
| Scarlet Fever                 | -                              | 1                           |
| Infective Hepatitis           | 2                              | -                           |
| Acute Meningitis              | 3                              | -                           |
| Acute encephalitis: Infective | -                              | -                           |
| Post Infectious               | -                              | 1                           |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum         | -                              | -                           |
| Leptospirosis                 | -                              | -                           |
| Paratyphoid Fever             | -                              | -                           |
| Typhoid Fever                 | -                              | -                           |
| Food Poisoning                | 7                              | 2                           |
| Malaria                       | 1                              | -                           |
| Plague                        | -                              | -                           |
| Cholera                       | -                              | -                           |
| Anthrax                       | -                              | -                           |
| Smallpox                      | -                              | -                           |
| Typhus Fever                  | -                              | -                           |
| Relapsing Fever               | -                              | -                           |
| Yellow Fever                  | -                              | -                           |
| Scabies (by local byelaw)     | -                              | -                           |
| Food Poisoning                | 8                              | -                           |

Smallpox

Routine Immunisation ceased on 15th November 1971 but general practitioners carry out immunisation when requested.

During 6th April 1973 to 13th May 1973, when London was declared an infected area, 4,257 doses of vaccine were distributed to Dorset and of these, 230 were sent to Bridport area doctors.

## NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OCCURRING

### Impetigo

One case of Impetigo was notified in a school child.

### Brucellosis

No cases were notified in the Rural District.

### Infestations

Five cases of verminous heads were reported and treated by County Council nursing staff.

### Haemolytic Streptococcal Disease - Scarlet Fever, Sore Throat and others

Fifty-five reports from the County Laboratory were received during 1972/73, showing infections resulting from haemolytic streptococcus. These were from throat swabs taken by the general practitioners concerned.

These cases were not notified as Scarlet Fever, the patients being either immune to the toxin produced by the bacteria or the bacteria itself being a bad toxin producer, therefore scarlet fever did not occur. The number of samples presented at the laboratory is not a fair estimate of the number of cases occurring since not all general practitioners will present throat swabs for examination.

The mode of transmission of this bacteria is by direct or indirect contact with an infected person or animal, by droplet spread or by ingestion of contaminated milk.

Any cases occurring in a group would be investigated to determine the source of infection.

### Glandular Fever

The infectious agent in Glandular Fever is thought to be a virus which is carried via discharge from the Respiratory Tract of man. It occurs all over the world and can be seen in isolated cases or in epidemics in schools and institutions. There are no preventive measure and it is rarely fatal. Ten blood samples were positive when subjected to laboratory tests.

### ADDITIONAL SUMMER POPULATION

The following figures are taken from County Council 'Additional Summer Population Estimates', which were compiled by the District Public Health Staffs.

#### Bridport Rural District Additional Summer Population 1972

|                                                                      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Holiday Camp                                                         | -      |
| Static Holiday Caravans<br>(5 persons per caravan)                   | 6,605  |
| Transit Caravans<br>(3½ persons per caravan)                         | 1,712  |
| Bed & Breakfast & Summer<br>Lettings<br>Hotels and Boarding Houses   | 1,200  |
| Tents<br>(4½ persons per tent)                                       | 4,783  |
| School Camping Parties<br>Scouts, etc.                               | 600    |
| Estimated additional<br>overnight population                         | 14,900 |
| Registrar General's Mid<br>Year Resident Population<br>Estimate 1972 | 8,890  |
| Estimated additional<br>day population                               | N/K    |

### DISEASES IN ANIMALS

The following infestations in animals were notified by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food during 1972/73.

Salmonella Typhimurium 3

#### Anthrax

Two cases were reported in 1972 and one during 1973.

## LEAD AND CADMIUM IN COOKING UTENSILS

Following articles which appeared in the public press during January 1973 disclosing that many imported cooking casseroles contained higher levels of toxic metals than allowed by the British Standards Institute for Ceramic Ware, a survey was carried out in the Rural District.

The Cooking Utensils (Safety) Regulations 1972 which came into operation on 1st April 1973 are designed to restrict to an upper limit of 20 parts in 10,000 parts the lead content of the tin or other metallic coating used on the surface of the utensil designed to come into contact with food.

## MILK

105 samples of milk from dairies and farms were taken in the Rural District during 1972 by Dorset County Council. Of these three failed the Methylene Blue test and one failed the Brucella Ring Test.

## WATER

137 samples were taken by the Dorset Water Board from sources within the Rural District. These were found to be of normal chemical character, good bacteriological quality and had no plumbo solvent action. Bridport Rural District's water supply contained less than 1 part per million of fluoride, the accepted amount necessary to maintain good teeth in children.

### Bacteriological examination of drinking water

This is carried out to demonstrate the presence or otherwise of excretal pollution in the water. It is accepted that if organisms normally excreted by the intestine are not found in the water it is likely that pathogenic organisms are also absent.

Standards are laid down (Class 1 to 4) for drinking water indicating the number of bacteria per 100 millilitre permissible in non-chlorinated piped supplies, although it is accepted that rural water supplies rarely reach Class 1.

The presence of *Bacillus Coli* (1) (*E. Coli*) in any water supply is indicative of faecal pollution and the source of this pollution should be detected.

BRIDPORT

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1972

Joint Public Health Department  
West Rivers House  
West Allington  
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DT6 5BU

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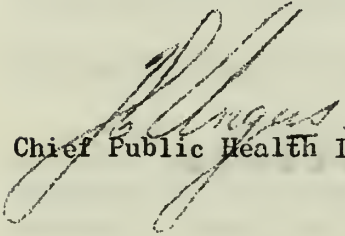
Mr. Chairman and Councillors

I have much pleasure in presenting for your consideration and information my report for the year 1972.

Since the Public Health Inspectors are employed in an integrated department which serves both the Bridport Borough and Rural District Councils and separate annual reports must be submitted to each Authority, this report in itself does not give a true picture of all the work carried out during the year. A separate report in respect of the borough area has been prepared.

The staff comprises a chief, a deputy, one inspector, one meat inspector, one student, one rodent operator and one clerk/typist. Towards the end of the year one inspector resigned his appointment and it was decided not to fill the vacancy until the student qualified. This subsequently took place.

I must again express my appreciation to all members of the Council and officers for their support and extend my personal gratitude to the members of my staff.



Chief Public Health Inspector

## HOUSING

The availability of adequate and suitable housing for the resident population is of major importance to the local authority and during the year many new houses have been constructed, several existing buildings have been converted into single or several self-contained dwellings, and numerous existing dwellings have been modernised.

The Bridport Rural District and the Bridport Borough Councils have continued their efforts to provide better homes and every encouragement is given to property owners to improve living conditions.

Although there was within the Rural area a slight decrease in the number of applications for Standard Grants to provide basic, or rather essential, modern amenities, there was a substantial increase in the number of Improvement Grant applications. Since the effect of the latter grant is to produce a house of a higher standard than that required for a standard grant, there is much to be said in favour of encouraging prospective grant applicants to carry out sufficient works to satisfy the Government's minimum 12-point standard and apply for an Improvement Grant.

The following table shows the number of dwellings improved or demolished as the result of work carried out by the public health inspectors :-

|                                                                  | Bridport Borough Council | Bridport Rural District Council | Totals              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| No. of houses improved with a Standard Grant and amount paid     | 6<br>(£828.00)           | 32<br>(£6,488.00)               | 38<br>(£7,316.00)   |
| No. of houses improved with an Improvement Grant and amount paid | 28<br>(£23,142.00)       | 46<br>(£39,533.00)              | 74<br>(£62,675.00)  |
| Totals                                                           | 34<br>(£23,970.00)       | 78<br>(£46,021.00)              | 112<br>(£69,991.00) |
| No. of houses demolished                                         | 7                        | 1                               | 8                   |

The following action was taken in 1972 :-

### Displacement of Families and Persons

The following shows the number of families and persons who were rehoused during the year from unfit dwellings :-

|                                                                  | <u>Families</u> | <u>Persons</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| From houses to be demolished in or adjoining Clearance Areas     | - (-)           | - (-)          |
| From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining Clearance Areas | 2 (1)           | 4 (3)          |
| From houses to be closed                                         | 2 (-)           | 3 (-)          |
| <u>Totals</u>                                                    | 4 (1)           | 7 (3)          |

Note: Figures in brackets relate to 1971.

Demolition Orders Revoked - Houses made fit

Symondsbury - 1 Foundry Knapp, West Road

Total - 1 (4 in 1971)

Undertakings Cancelled - Houses made fit

Allington - Washingpool Farm Cottage

Bradpole - 4 Tunis Terrace

Loders - Trossacks, Uploders

Whitchurch Canonicorum - Rose Cottage (South), Tizards Knapp

Total - 4 (10 in 1971)

Undertakings accepted not to use Houses for Human Habitation Until Made Fit

Askerswell - Rock Cottage

Charmouth - 3 Hall View, Lower Sea Lane

Total - 2 (3 in 1971)

Undertakings accepted not to use Houses for Human Habitation, upon vacation by present tenants, until made fit

Bradpole - Clematis Cottages, Middle Street

Loders - Yondover Farmhouse

Total - 2 (2 in 1971)

Undertaking accepted to carry out repair and improvements

Bothenhampton - 37 Main Street

Total - 1

Proposals accepted to render Houses fit for Human Habitation

Puncknowle - 1 Bride Valley Cottages  
                  2 Bride Valley Cottages  
Shipton Gorge - 1 Chapel Street  
                  2 Chapel Street  
Symondsbury - 2 Atrim Common Cottages, Broadoak  
                  3 Atrim Common Cottages, Broadoak  
                  Malt Houses  
                  1 Mount Cottages, Eype  
                  2 Mount Cottages, Eype  
Wootton Fitzpaine - Lower Pound Farmhouse

Total - 11 (15 in 1971)

Closing Orders made

Nil (3 in 1971)

Demolition Orders made

Whitchurch Canonicorum - The Cave, Ryall

Total - 1 (2 in 1971)

Dwellings Demolished

Symondsbury - West Road Cottage

Total - 1 (1 in 1971)

Dwellings Scheduled for Demolition - Road Improvements

Loders - 45 and 47 Dorchester Road

Total - 2

Improvement to Dwellinghouses

Private Dwellings

(1) Standard Grants (Note: figures in brackets refer to 1971)

|                                                 | Owner/Occupier |      | Other |     | Total |      |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|------|-------|-----|-------|------|
| Applications received during 1972               | 10             | (16) | 7     | (4) | 17    | (20) |
| Applications brought forward from previous year | 1              | (-)  | -     | (4) | 1     | (4)  |
| Applications approved                           | 8              | (15) | 6     | (6) | 14    | (21) |
| Applications refused                            | -              | (-)  | -     | (-) | -     | (-)  |
| Applications withdrawn                          | 1              | (-)  | -     | (2) | 1     | (2)  |
| Applications in hand at end of year             | 2              | (1)  | 1     | (-) | 3     | (1)  |
| No. of dwellings improved and grants paid       | 24             | (18) | 8     | (7) | 32    | (25) |

Total amount paid in standard grants = £6,488. (£5,442.50)  
Average amount paid per house = £202.75 (£217.70)

No. of amenities provided within the 32 dwellings improved during the year :-

|                                           | Owner/Occupier |      | Other |     | Total |      |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------|------|-------|-----|-------|------|
| (a) Fixed bath in a bathroom              | 11             | (7)  | 7     | (4) | 18    | (11) |
| (b) Fixed bath in a new bathroom addition | 7              | (7)  | 1     | (1) | 8     | (8)  |
| (c) Wash hand basin                       | 18             | (14) | 8     | (6) | 26    | (20) |
| (d) Hot water supply to bath              | 19             | (14) | 8     | (5) | 27    | (19) |
| (e) Hot water supply to wash hand basin   | 19             | (15) | 8     | (7) | 27    | (22) |
| (f) Hot water supply to sink              | 13             | (8)  | 8     | (5) | 21    | (13) |
| (g) W.C.                                  | 22             | (16) | 8     | (6) | 30    | (22) |
| (h) Septic tank                           | 3              | (4)  | -     | (1) | 3     | (5)  |
| (i) Sink and piped water supply           | 1              | (-)  | -     | (-) | 1     | (-)  |
| (j) Sink                                  | 8              | (5)  | 3     | (2) | 11    | (8)  |
| (k) Piped cold water supply               | -              | (-)  | -     | (1) | -     | (1)  |

The "reduced standard" of amenities, as defined in section 43(5) of the Housing Act 1969, has not been utilised.

(2) Improvement Grants (Note: figures in brackets refer to 1971)

|                                                         | Owner/Occupier |      | Other |      | Total |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
| Applications received for Improvements during 1972      | 24             | (12) | 32    | (31) | 56    | (43) |
| Applications for Improvements brought forward from 1971 | 3              | (2)  | 2     | (3)  | 5     | (5)  |
| *Applications for Conversions received during 1972      | -              | (1)  | 9     | (5)  | 9     | (6)  |
| Applications approved                                   | 25             | (11) | 40    | (35) | 65    | (46) |
| Applications refused                                    | -              | (1)  | -     | (-)  | -     | (1)  |
| Applications withdrawn                                  | -              | (-)  | -     | (2)  | -     | (2)  |
| Applications outstanding at end of year                 | 2              | (3)  | 3     | (2)  | 5     | (5)  |
| No. of dwellings improved and grant paid                | 15             | (12) | 31    | (25) | 46    | (37) |

\* 2 of these applications were in respect of converting 2 dwellings into 1 dwelling.

3 were in respect of converting 1 dwelling into 2 dwellings.

4 were in respect of converting a building into 1 dwelling.

Total amount paid in improvement grants = £39,533. (£31,197)  
Average amount paid per dwelling = £859.41 (£843.16)

With regard to the improvement grants paid during the year for works of conversion :-

1 Building was converted into 4 dwellings.  
1 House was converted into 2 dwellings.

#### Improvement Areas

No improvement areas have been declared by the Council under the Housing Act 1969.

#### Improvement of Dwellings outside Improvement Areas

No representations were received from tenants under the provisions of section 19 of the Housing Act 1964.

#### Underground Rooms

Underground rooms are still in evidence within the Rural District and appropriate Regulations were made in 1970 to secure proper standards. The Regulations have been applied to several dwellings which have undergone major alterations during the year.

#### Houses in Multiple Occupation

The Local Authority have powers under the Housing Acts 1961-1969 to deal with houses in multiple occupation, but the powers have not been utilised within this district as there are no known cases.

#### Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses within the district.

#### Qualification Certificates

##### (a) Dwellings already provided with standard amenities

If an owner considers that a house satisfies the qualifying conditions, i.e. that it is fit for human habitation, is in a good state of repair, and it had all the five standard amenities prior to the 25 August 1969, he may apply to the Council for a Qualification Certificate. If granted, the controlled tenancy becomes regulated on the date the certificate is issued.

|                                                                 |   |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----|
| No. of applications received during 1969                        | = | 1   |
| No. of applications received during 1970                        | = | Nil |
| No. of applications received during 1971                        | = | 6   |
| No. of applications received during 1972                        | = | 3   |
| No. of applications approved and<br>Certificates issued in 1972 | = | 3 * |
| No. of Certificates issued from 25/8/69<br>to 31/12/72          | = | 6   |

\* Two Certificates were issued in respect of dwellings having rateable values less than £40.

One Certificate was in respect of a dwelling having a rateable value of between £40. and £60.

In one case an application for a Certificate was refused, on the grounds that the dwelling was not in good repair.

(b) Dwellings to be provided with standard amenities

If a house, occupied by a controlled tenant, lacks any of the standard amenities, the owner can apply to the Council for a Provisional Certificate and submit his proposals to provide the dwelling with the missing standard amenities and to comply with the qualifying conditions. The Qualification Certificate is issued upon the satisfactory completion of the work and the tenancy becomes regulated from the date the Certificate is issued.

No. of applications received during 1969 = Nil

No. of applications received during 1970 = 11

No. of applications received during 1971 = 7

No. of applications received during 1972 = 3

No. of applications approved and

Provisional Certificates issued in 1972 = 3

No. of applications approved and

Provisional Certificates issued from

25/8/69 to 31/12/72 = 21

No. of Qualification Certificates

issued in 1972 = 4

No. of Qualification Certificates

issued from 25/8/69 to 31/12/72 = 12

Overcrowding

No cases of statutory overcrowding were brought to the attention of the Department.

Unfit Dwellings not Capable of Repair at Reasonable Expense

See **table** on following page.

UNFIT DWELLINGS NOT CAPABLE OF REPAIR AT REASONABLE EXPENSE

| PARISH                 | Total Known Dwellings | Undertaking accepted to carry out repairs and improvements | U/T. accepted not to use house for human habitation until made fit | U/T. accepted not to use house for human habitation upon vacation by occupier until made fit | Subject of Demolition Order | Subject of Closing Order | Purchased by L.A. |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| ALLINGTON              | 6                     | 1                                                          | -                                                                  | -                                                                                            | 2                           | 3                        | -                 |
| ASKERSWELL             | 1                     | -                                                          | 1                                                                  | -                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| BOTHENHAMPTON          | 3                     | 2                                                          | -                                                                  | 1                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| BRADPOLE               | 3                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | 2                                                                                            | -                           | 1                        | -                 |
| BURTON BRADSTOCK       | 1                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | 1                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| CATHERSTON LEWESTON    | -                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | -                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| CHARMOUTH              | 2                     | -                                                          | 1                                                                  | 1                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| CHIDEOCK               | 2                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | 2                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| CHILCOMBE              | -                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | -                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| LITTON CHENEY          | 2                     | -                                                          | 1                                                                  | 1                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| LODERS                 | 2                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | 2                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| PUNCKNOWLE             | 3                     | 2                                                          | -                                                                  | 1                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| SHIPTON GORGE          | 3                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | 3                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| STANTON ST. GABRIEL    | -                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | -                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| SWYRE                  | -                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | -                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| SYMONDSBURY            | 26                    | 9                                                          | -                                                                  | 12                                                                                           | 1                           | 1                        | 3                 |
| WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM | 11                    | 4                                                          | -                                                                  | 2                                                                                            | 4                           | 1                        | -                 |
| WOOTTON FITZPAINE      | 4                     | -                                                          | -                                                                  | 4                                                                                            | -                           | -                        | -                 |
| TOTALS                 | 69                    | 18                                                         | 3                                                                  | 32                                                                                           | 7                           | 6                        | 3                 |

## FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION

### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970

There are 178 food premises in the district, as follows :-

|                            |    |                             |     |
|----------------------------|----|-----------------------------|-----|
| Biscuits and Confectionery | 1  | Bread and Confectionery     | 2   |
| Butchers                   | 5  | Cafes and Ice Cream         | 6   |
| Canteens                   | 6  | Cheese Factory              | 1   |
| Clubs, Licensed Premises   | 4  | Confectionery and Ice Cream | 2   |
| Fruit and Vegetables       | 3  | General Food                | 14  |
| Fishmonger                 | 2  | Guest Houses                | 22  |
| General Food and Ice Cream | 32 | Hotels                      | 15  |
| Hamburgers                 | 1  | Hospital Kitchen            | 1   |
| Restaurants                | 8  | Ice Cream                   | 3   |
| Honey                      | 1  | Inns and Ice Cream          | 4   |
| Inns                       | 28 | Milk                        | 14  |
| Market Gardening           | 1  | Slaughterhouse              | 1   |
| School and Ice Cream       | 1  |                             |     |
|                            |    |                             |     |
| TOTAL                      |    |                             | 178 |

### Food Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 (Sec. 16)

|                                             |    |
|---------------------------------------------|----|
| Storage and sale of ice cream               | 66 |
| Preparation or manufacture of               |    |
| Sausages or Potted, Pressed or Pickled Food | 6  |
| Cooked Fish                                 | 1  |

### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970

Routine visits were made to food premises to ascertain the standard of hygiene and to advise on the safe preparation, storage, distribution and sale of food. Due to staff shortages, the Department was unable to devote the requisite amount of time to this very important aspect of our work, but generally speaking the persons who carry on food businesses maintain good standards.

### Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

These Regulations came into operation on 1 January 1967, and lay down requirements as to food hygiene at Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles.

No formal notices were served during the year.

### Meat Inspection

The slaughterhouse at Bradpole continued to work full time although the number of animals received for slaughter was less than in previous years. Shortage of labour at the premises resulted in work being carried on through a longer working day and the Meat Inspector was kept fully employed. The inspection of meat and securing its production under hygienic conditions are highly specialised tasks necessitating a sound knowledge of the meat trade in addition to animal anatomy and pathology.

Animals sent for slaughter are in the main healthy and a very small percentage indeed has to be rejected, but the local slaughterhouse is a receiving centre for casualty livestock from a wide area and this class of animal naturally has a far higher percentage of rejection on account of disease and unfitness from other causes. In the case of calves, due to the high price of cattle it is very profitable to rear them, so that in the main the only small calves received for slaughter are sick or "unthrifty" animals. Hence a much higher percentage of offal and carcase meat is rejected than would normally be the case - pneumonia is very prevalent among this class of animal. Jaundice, oedema (dropsy), joint ill and malformation are other conditions necessitating condemnation.

Cattle are normally healthy and the incidence of parasitic conditions is much less thanks to improved husbandry and availability of modern drugs, but cows, on account of their longer life and use as milk producing units, do present a higher disease rate, tumours, septic conditions and post-calving injuries and infections being found.

The Brucellosis Voluntary Eradication Scheme goes ahead and a number of milk herds in the area are accredited brucella free. Much requires to be done however before this scourge is eradicated.

The number of reactors to the Tuberculin test was very much lower this year, only 38 being sent in for slaughter. Post mortem revealed localised tuberculosis in 6 cases only. This is a marked decrease to the number of T.B. reactors found in the two previous years, the numbers being 190 and 180 cattle, and shows once again how animal health has been improved by the eradication scheme.

Pigs present a problem inasmuch as they develop abscesses on various parts of the body when exposed to infection from staphylococci gaining access through wounds or lacerations. Tail biting, which occurs in pigs under intensive rearing, often leads to infection in all parts of the animal, bone and muscle, and leads to pyaemia. All tail biters and suspect pigs are split for more thorough detailed examination, but sometimes it is only when the carcase is jointed up for retail sale that abscesses are discovered. It would appear that some research into this problem would be worthwhile as the disease has no regular pattern of progression, and an Inspector has little guidance for his judgments, these probably varying considerably at different abattoirs. Other diseases met with among pigs and necessitating part condemnation are pneumonia, pleurisy and peritonitis (sometimes septic), arthritis and parasitic conditions in livers due to failure to worm both sow and weanling pigs effectively. Loss of edible offal can be, and often is, considerable.

There is an ever growing demand for dog meat and poor or emaciated beef carcasses may be used raw for such purpose if free from disease. Processers, who sterilise condemned meat and sell it for animal food, are ever willing to accept rejected meat and offal for their business, and one may wonder if an Inspector is justified in allowing diseased meat to be processed into pet food after sterilisation. Is there just an aesthetic objection?

In the past slaughterhouse waste and diseased meat was collected by a few specialist firms and rendered in sterilising digesters into inedible fats, bone meal and organic fertiliser - an excellent method of disposal.

Knacker yards, however, could sell any meat raw, from whatever animal carcase it came, provided it was coloured distinctively. So it would appear that the present day pet food manufacturer is producing a much safer as well as a more attractive finished product.

Regarding hygiene, the slaughterhouse premises were further improved during the year and a regular daily cleaning routine instituted. The warm weather, however, demonstrated the need for more refrigerated storage space in order to prevent spoilage.

The particulars of the carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part at the slaughterhouse during 1972 are set out in the following table.

|                                                                                                       | Cattle<br>ex<br>Cows | Cows  | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|-------|
| Number killed                                                                                         | 1,081                | 523   | 559    | 16,764                | 8,498 |
| Number inspected                                                                                      | 1,081                | 523   | 559    | 16,764                | 8,498 |
| <u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis<br/>and Cysticerci</u>                                            |                      |       |        |                       |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned                                                                             | 7                    | 34    | 31     | 48                    | 97    |
| Carcasses of which some part<br>or organ was condemned                                                | 270                  | 259   | 79     | 1,422                 | 1,590 |
| Percentage of the number inspected<br>affected with disease other than<br>tuberculosis and cysticerci | 25.6%                | 56.0% | 19.6%  | 8.7%                  | 19.8% |
| <u>Tuberculosis only</u>                                                                              |                      |       |        |                       |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned                                                                             | -                    | -     | -      | -                     | -     |
| Carcasses of which some part<br>or organ was condemned                                                | -                    | 3     | -      | -                     | -     |
| Percentage of the number inspected<br>affected with tuberculosis                                      | -                    | 0.57% | -      | -                     | -     |
| <u>Cysticercosis</u>                                                                                  |                      |       |        |                       |       |
| Carcasses of which some part<br>or organ was condemned                                                | -                    | 1     | -      | -                     | -     |
| Carcasses submitted to<br>treatment by refrigeration                                                  | -                    | 1     | -      | -                     | -     |
| Generalised and totally condemned                                                                     | -                    | -     | -      | -                     | -     |

Under the Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations 1971 the Council's meat inspection charges are as follows :-

|                                                     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|
| In the case of each bovine animal other than a calf | 18p |
| In the case of each calf or pig                     | 5p  |
| In the case of each sheep, lamb or goat             | 4p  |

The total income for the year amounted to £1,412.13

### Slaughtermen

Licences to slaughter or stun animals are granted by the Council under the Slaughter of Animals Act 1958.

Six persons were granted a licence for a period of twelve months to slaughter or stun cattle, sheep, swine or goats using captive bolt or electrolethaler instruments. One other person was granted a licence to slaughter or stun animals on condition that he carried out the work under the supervision of a competent slaughterman.

### Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing establishments in the district, but during the year, in the absence of their Public Health Inspector, the department assisted Beaminster R.D.C. and carried out poultry inspection at an establishment in Salwayash.

### Food Supply - 2 complaints

The following is a synopsis of food complaints referred to the Public Health Department and dealt with during 1972.

| <u>Complaint</u>          | <u>Action Taken</u>                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Mouldy pork pie        | This had been sold one week after manufacture. Letter of warning sent to retailers.                                               |
| 2. Foreign matter in loaf | This "foreign matter" was identified as denatured dough that had been in contact with iron of a baking tray. No action necessary. |

### Condemnation of Food

The following foodstuffs were surrendered voluntarily by traders and were disposed of as being unfit for human consumption. Certificates of Condemnation were issued.

|                            |         |         |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Beef                       | 16 lbs. | 10 ozs. |
| Canned Ox Tongue (English) | 6 lbz.  | 0 ozs.  |
| Total Weight               | 22 lbz. | 10 ozs. |

Number of visits = 2

### WATER SUPPLIES

All dwellings are provided with water from the mains of the Dorset Water Board, the East Devon Water Board or from other private sources. Internal water supply has not yet been provided within every dwelling, but steps have been taken to rectify this situation.

Good progress is being made by the Dorset Water Board in laying the new mains to serve some 100 dwellings in the West Road, Eype and Quarr Lane area of the Parish of Symondsburry, and it is expected that the scheme will be completed and operational by the Spring of 1974. This should overcome the great and worrying public health problems associated with the poor quality and quantity of the existing well waters.

During the year 116 water samples were taken from 74 dwellings and the following table shows the results of the examinations carried out by the Public Health Laboratory. The figures in brackets relate to 1971.

| <u>Private Supplies</u> | <u>Satisfactory</u> | <u>Suspicious</u> | <u>Unsatisfactory</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Source                  | 4 (18)              | 1 (-)             | 23 (37)               | 28 (55)      |
| Consumer                | 32 (59)             | 4 (6)             | 52 (86)               | 88 (151)     |
| Totals                  | 36 (77)             | 5 (6)             | 75 (123)              | 116 (206)    |

All owners and/or occupiers of the properties with bacteriologically unsatisfactory water were advised of measures to take to improve quality. In four cases the wells were chlorinated by the Department.

The following table shows the number of dwellings and the population, in Parishes, supplied from public water mains :-

PIPED WATER SUPPLY

| PARISH                 | Actual Dwellings | DWELLINGS SUPPLIED BY | ESTIMATED POPULATION |                              |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
|                        |                  |                       | Est. Popn.           | Supplied direct to dwellings |
|                        |                  | Water Board           |                      | Water Board                  |
| ALLINGTON              | 75               | 46                    | 249                  | 151                          |
| ASKERSWELL             | 56               | 38                    | 137                  | 90                           |
| BOTHENHAMPTON          | 672              | 645                   | 1,360                | 1,300                        |
| BRADPOLE               | 528              | 513                   | 1,356                | 1,316                        |
| BURTON BRADSTOCK       | 405              | 385                   | 720                  | 683                          |
| CATHERSTON LEWESTON    | 33               | 31                    | 65                   | 62                           |
| CHARMOUTH              | 510              | 509                   | 1,010                | 1,007                        |
| CHIDEOCK               | 259              | 221                   | 559                  | 477                          |
| CHILCOMBE              | 6                | 6                     | 14                   | 14                           |
| LITTON CHENEY          | 96               | 72                    | 216                  | 159                          |
| LODERS                 | 173              | 135                   | 444                  | 350                          |
| PUNCKNOWLE             | 180              | 156                   | 350                  | 306                          |
| SHIPTON GORGE          | 134              | 121                   | 256                  | 234                          |
| STANTON ST. GABRIEL    | 44               | 21                    | 92                   | 41                           |
| SWYRE                  | 39               | 36                    | 91                   | 84                           |
| SYMONDSBURY            | 447              | 285                   | 1,032                | 647                          |
| WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM | 285              | 190                   | 635                  | 416                          |
| WOOTTON FITZPAINE      | 113              | 17                    | 304                  | 39                           |
| TOTALS                 | 4,055            | 3,427                 | 8,890                | 7,376                        |

Note: No persons are supplied with water by means of standpipes.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

In the last report I stated that a scheme had been prepared to provide main drainage for part of the Parishes of Symondsbury and Allington. The work is now nearing completion. All main sewers, rising main and pressure pipeline have been laid and the construction of the three pumping stations is making good progress. The making of house connections will soon commence and the whole contract should be completed by February 1974. 97 dwellings will be connected to the sewer. When operational, this sewer will remove and prevent much pollution of land from existing unsatisfactory septic tanks and sewers.

Public health problems do exist, particularly at the height of the summer season, at the Burton Bradstock and Charmouth sewage works. In regard to Burton Bradstock, the sewage effluent is now being chlorinated and in the not too far and distant future it is hoped to dispense with the works and pump all sewage some  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles to the West and into the long sea outfall at West Bay, Bridport. In regard to the Charmouth works, which was designed to cope with the sewage from 2,500 persons, a scheme for the enlargement of the works is in preparation and, when completed, the works will be able to cater for a population of 6,000.

The Eype and Morcombelake areas of the district are in need of main drainage and it is to be hoped that they will be given a degree of priority.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The construction of the new conveniences at the car park in Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth has been completed and work is due to commence in December 1973 to construct the conveniences at the playing fields in Burton Bradstock.

No satisfactory site has yet been found in the village of Chideock for conveniences, but there is a justifiable need and the search for a site continues.

The conveniences situated near the beach at Seatown have been improved and modernised.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council undertakes a fortnightly collection of refuse, but during the summer months a special weekly collection of refuse from caravan and camping sites and hotels is carried out and appropriate charges are made. The volume of household refuse has greatly increased in recent years and this is attributable to various factors, viz. - an increase in the number of new residential properties, an ever increasing holiday population, and an increase in the amount of refuse per dwelling.

All refuse is disposed of at the Bridport Borough's tip at Bothenhampton.

In February the Department received a report that the beach between Burton Bradstock and West Bexington was littered with the carcasses of chickens. A visit to the scene revealed the presence of 500 - 600 individual pre-packed frozen chickens and the remains of a very large insulated container. The chickens were removed to and destroyed at the refuse tip. Enquiries established that the container with the chickens had been lost overboard from a ship and the cost of clearing the beach was subsequently recovered from the owners.

### CLEAN AIR

During the year the 8-port pollution equipment and the Ericsson European Survey Equipment continued in operation, the former equipment having been in use for 8 years and the latter for 4 years. Results show that the average daily concentration of smoke for the whole of 1972 was 3.93 microgrammes per cu. metre - a decrease on the 1971 figure. The highest concentration of smoke occurred in September (7.1 m/gms. per cu. metre per day) and the lowest in June (0.5 m/gms. per cu. metre per day). The sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) concentration for the year was 23.7 m/gms. per cu. metre - an increase on that recorded last year. The highest concentration of SO<sub>2</sub> was recorded in October (38.8 m/gms. per cu. metre per day) and the lowest in June (15.1 m/gms. per cu. metre per day). The maximum temperature was recorded in June and July (34°C) and the minimum temperature (-2°C) occurred in January and November. Rainfall for the year totalled 949.4 mm. The driest month was July (25.25 mm), whilst the wettest month was February (142.25 mm).

No smoke control areas have been declared by the Council, but in dealing with properties under the Housing Acts the Public Health Inspectors have taken every opportunity to ensure that disused or unsuitable fireplaces have been removed or replaced by approved appliances capable of burning smokeless fuels.

### FACTORIES ACT 1961

#### FACTORIES ON THE COUNCIL'S REGISTER AND DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE

|                                                                                                             | Number on Register | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| (1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities                      | -                  | -           | -               | -                    |
| (2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities                   | 12                 | 7           | -               | -                    |
| (3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding outworkers' premises) | -                  | -           | -               | -                    |
| TOTAL                                                                                                       | 12                 | 7           | -               | -                    |

# FACTORIES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

|                                                                              | Found    | Remedied | Referred          |                   | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                              |          |          | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector |                                                       |
| Want of Cleanliness                                                          | -        | -        | -                 | -                 | -                                                     |
| Overcrowding                                                                 | -        | -        | -                 | -                 | -                                                     |
| Unreasonable temperature                                                     | -        | -        | -                 | -                 | -                                                     |
| Inadequate ventilation                                                       | -        | -        | -                 | -                 | -                                                     |
| Ineffective drainage of floors                                               | -        | -        | -                 | -                 | -                                                     |
| <u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>                                                 |          |          |                   |                   |                                                       |
| (a) Insufficient                                                             | -        | -        | -                 | 2                 | -                                                     |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective                                                  | 4        | 4        | -                 | -                 | -                                                     |
| (c) Not separate for sexes                                                   | -        | -        | -                 | -                 | -                                                     |
| Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to outworkers | -        | -        | -                 | -                 | -                                                     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                 | <b>4</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>-</b>          | <b>2</b>          | <b>-</b>                                              |

## OUTWORK

| Nature of Work            | No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 133 (1)(c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Nets other than wire nets | 79                                                            | -                                                       | -                                               | -                                                 | -              | -            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>79</b>                                                     | <b>-</b>                                                | <b>-</b>                                        | <b>-</b>                                          | <b>-</b>       | <b>-</b>     |

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

All known premises coming within the scope of this Act have been inspected and routine visits have continued to ascertain whether or not standards have been maintained. Action was taken where defects were found.

No accidents involving employed persons were notified.

The following are the prescribed particulars to be included in the annual report under Section 60 of the Act :-

|                             | No. of premises registered during 1972 | No. of premises registered at the end of :- |           | No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection |           |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
|                             |                                        | 1971                                        | 1972      | 1971                                                      | 1972      |
| Offices                     | -                                      | 6                                           | 6         | 3                                                         | 2         |
| Retail shops                | 1                                      | 28                                          | 28        | 16                                                        | 8         |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses | -                                      | -                                           | -         | -                                                         | -         |
| Catering establishments     | -                                      | 21                                          | 21        | 17                                                        | 6         |
| Fuel storage depots         | -                                      | 1                                           | 1         | -                                                         | -         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>1</b>                               | <b>56</b>                                   | <b>56</b> | <b>36</b>                                                 | <b>16</b> |

No. of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises 42

|                            | Analysis of persons employed in Registered Premises as at 31st December |            |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <u>Class of work place</u> | <u>No. of persons</u>                                                   |            |
|                            | 1971                                                                    | 1972       |
| Offices                    | 23                                                                      | 23         |
| Retail shops               | 55                                                                      | 54         |
| Wholesale departments      | -                                                                       | -          |
| Catering establishments    | 93                                                                      | 93         |
| Canteens                   | 2                                                                       | 2          |
| Fuel storage depots        | 2                                                                       | 2          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>175</b>                                                              | <b>174</b> |
| Total males                | 54                                                                      | 54         |
| Total females              | 121                                                                     | 120        |

#### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

One person is licensed under this Act to keep an animal boarding establishment and the premises can accommodate not more than six cats.

#### NOISE ABATEMENT

The law relating to noise is contained within the Noise Abatement Act 1960 and a Dorset County Council Byelaw made in 1935.

Noise is regarded as a major environmental pollutant and it can cause mental and physical stress. During the year the Public Health Department received 5 complaints - 3 within the Rural District and 2 within the Borough. The following is a synopsis of the 5 complaints :-

Bridport Rural District Council

| <u>Complaint</u>                   | <u>Action Taken</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Noisy motor at Sewage Works     | No nuisance established.<br>No action taken.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 2. Motor Cycle Scrambling          | This was taking place on a hillside during certain weekends and holiday periods and the noise was sporadic. A nuisance within the meaning of the Noise Abatement Act was not established. Informal steps were taken to overcome the problem.                                                                 |
| 3. Noisy oil-fired domestic boiler | Investigations revealed that the noise was caused when the pressure jet oil burner came into operation. The noise was being carried up the chimney into the atmosphere to the annoyance of a neighbour. Informal steps were being taken at the end of the year in an effort to resolve the alleged nuisance. |

Bridport Borough Council

|                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4. Noise and vibration from water pipe | This occurred within a dwelling and investigations revealed that it was caused by refrigeration equipment in nearby premises. The equipment was modified and isolated from the communal water pipe. This resolved the problem. |
| 5. Late night use of power tools       | This occurred at a dwellinghouse. No action necessary.                                                                                                                                                                         |

RODENT CONTROL AND ERADICATION OF VERMIN

One full time rodent operator is employed by the Bridport Rural District and Bridport Borough Councils and he has the use of a fully equipped vehicle. The total number of complaints received and dealt with has remained fairly constant when compared with recent years and this is a satisfactory situation when one considers that the total number of properties in the district has in the past year increased by 148. The number of complaints received in respect of pests other than rats or mice was only 99 compared with 117 in 1971.

The public sewers and refuse tip were given close attention during the year and where rodent infestations were found control measures were taken.

The Council gives a free service to the occupiers of dwellinghouses, but occupiers of business premises are charged at the rate of £2. per hour (which is inclusive of labour and materials). There is a minimum charge of £1.

205 visits were made by the rodent operator to the 19 premises subject of contracts.

The following table is the content of the annual return submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food :-

|                                                                                                     | TYPE OF PROPERTY     |              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
|                                                                                                     | NON-<br>AGRICULTURAL | AGRICULTURAL |
| 1. Number of properties in the district                                                             | 4269                 | 419          |
| 2. a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification       | 153                  | -            |
| b) Number infested by (i) rats<br>(ii) mice                                                         | 127<br>26            | -<br>-       |
| 3. a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification | 462                  | 45           |
| b) Number infested by (i) rats<br>(ii) mice                                                         | 12<br>-              | 25<br>-      |

107 visits were made to clear the 26 mice infestations.

681 visits were made to clear the 127 notified rat infestations.

191 visits were made to clear the 37 rat infestations.

The occupiers of 2 business premises were re-charged for services rendered.

In addition the rodent operator dealt with the following infestations :-

|          |              |         |               |
|----------|--------------|---------|---------------|
| Ants     | 5 complaints | Lice    | 1 complaints  |
| Bed Bugs | 1 "          | Moles   | 57 "          |
| Bees     | 6 "          | Spiders | 1 "           |
| Fleas    | 2 "          | Voles   | 1 "           |
| Flies    | 10 "         | Wasps   | 15 "          |
|          |              | Total   | 99 complaints |

## POISONOUS BEANS

In June 15 persons lodged with the Department 16 necklaces and 15 individual specimens of beads, requesting information as to whether any of the items were the poisonous beans known as "Abrus Precatorius". 6 of the necklaces were identified as Abrus and 1 other necklace comprised beans of Castor - an equally poisonous fruit. These were destroyed and the others were returned to the owners.

## CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES

Caravanning and camping was in the beginning the pursuit of a few enthusiasts, but it has now become the recognised holiday practice for an uncountable number of people. West Dorset attracts a very high percentage of such holidaymakers, both from this country and abroad, and during bank holidays, the latter part of July and the month of August, the authorised sites in this area are quickly filled to capacity. Public health problems do arise in regard to the stationing of caravans on unauthorised land and it is necessary to enforce the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.

Eleven tent licences authorising the stationing of a maximum of 1,024 tents on the sites, and thirty-two caravan site licences authorising the stationing of 20 residential caravans, 1,320 seasonal caravans and 287 touring caravans were in force at the end of the year.

Nine other sites are in use by members of an exempted organisation and whereas one of these can be used for the stationing of 118 caravans, each of the other sites can be used by a maximum of 5 caravans.

Routine visits were made to licensed and unlicensed sites, and particular discussions took place with those site operators who were in the process of carrying out improvements.

In regard to camping, the Council received and considered the Report of the Camping Working Party from the Department of the Environment. It was decided not to apply the suggested standards in relation to sanitary accommodation since the standards were lower than those already applied within the rural district area.

No agreement has yet been reached in regard to the location and size of a gypsy site. There is no insuperable gypsy problem and the Council have submitted their views to the County Council and the Department of the Environment.



